

LIBRARY  
S

Urban District of Brixham



**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

---

1940



# Urban District of Brixham



## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

---

1940



# **Urban District of Brixham**

---

**Chairman of the Council :**

**COUNCILLOR C. M. ASHFORD, J.P.**

---

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE :**

**Chairman : COUNCILLOR S. J. PENNY**

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**HOUSING COMMITTEE :**

**Chairman : COUNCILLOR S. W. BANKS**

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**Clerk to the Council :**

**SANDERS LEAR**

---

**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :**

**Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer for  
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and  
Port Medical Officer :**

**†‡ANDREW DICK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health  
and Port Medical Officer :**

**\*†L. INGRAM DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B.**

**Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and Foods,  
Port Health Inspector, Housing Officer, and  
Inspector under the Petroleum and Explosives Acts :**

**†‡FRANCIS LAWRENCE GODFREY,  
A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.**

**\*Part time.**

**; Whole time.**

**†Salary contribution by Exchequer Grants.**



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28957258>

# REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR  
THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM  
FOR 1940.

---

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1940. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the report is restricted to essential statistics.

---

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

---

Area of District	...	...	5,626 acres
Population, 1931 Census	...	...	8,147
„	Estimated to middle of 1940	...	8,795 <span style="float: right;">X</span>
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1940 (approx.)			2,520 <span style="float: right;">X</span>
Rateable Value of District—			
Inside Harbour Area	...	...	£45,601
Outside „ „ „	...	...	£3,390
		Total	£48,991

# VITAL STATISTICS, 1940.

---

## LIVE BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ...	39	55	94
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	40	58	98

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 10.8

## STILL BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	3	8

Rate per 1,000, total live and still births ... ... ... 84.2

## DEATHS.

Male.	Female.	Total.	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 15.06
71	67	138	

Death Rate for Brixham (as compared with England and Wales) ... 11.74

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 of the live & still births, 66.03
Legitimate ...	5	—	5	
Illegitimate	—	2	2	

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	—	Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... —
Other Puerperal Causes		—	

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1940 (As supplied by Registrar General)

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...		
Measles	...	1	1
Scarlet Fever	...		
Whooping Cough	...		
Diphtheria	...		
Influenza	...	3	6
Enceph Lethargica	...		
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...		
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	1	4
Other Tuberculosis	1		1
Syphilis	...	1	1
Cancer	11	6	17
Diabetes	2	3	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	8	6	14
Heart Disease	9	11	20
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	2	3
Bronchitis	7	2	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	3	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	1		1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...		
Appendicitis	1		1
Other digestive diseases	...	2	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	2	3
Puerperal Sepsis	...		
Other Puerperal Diseases	...		
Congenital debility, Premature birth, etc.	3	2	5
Senility	...		
Suicide	...		
Other Violence	3	2	5
All Other Causes	10	19	29
Diarrhoea (over 2 years)	...		
Special Causes	...		
(Included in No. 35 above)	...		
Smallpox	...		
Polio-myelitis	...		
Polioencephalitis	1		1
Total All Causes	71	67	138

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Pneumonia	...	...	...	13
Erysipelas	...	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	34
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	..	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	2
Dysentery (Sonne Bacillus)	...	...	...	—
Undulant Fever	...	...	...	1

Admitted to Isolation Hospital—

Scarlet Fever	...	1 case.
Diphtheria	...	26 ,,

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5								
15	1	1	1	1			1	
25	1	1			1	1		
35	3							
45		3						
55	1				1			
65 and upward					1			
Totals	6	5	1	1	3	1	1	

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year ending 31st December, 1940.

---

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Fifteenth Annual Report, which, as required by the Ministry of Health, is confined to statistics only.

Yours faithfully,

F. L. GODFREY,

Sanitary Inspector and  
Inspector of Meat and Foods.

---

## HOUSING, 1940.

---

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including number given separate under "b") :				
I. By Local Authority	...	...	...	0
II. By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	0
III. By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	0
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :				
I. By the Local Authority	...	...	...	0
(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Housing Act, 1925	...	...	...	0
(b) For the purpose of Part III of the Housing Act, 1925	...	...	...	0
(c) For other purposes	...	...	...	0
II. By other bodies	...	...	...	0

## HOUSING STATISTICS, 1940.

---

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	39
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head 1 above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932) ... ...	17
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	29
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ...	0
4	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ...	4
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ...	21
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	5
2	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners ... ... ... ...	5
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ... ..	17
2	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners ... ... ... ...	17
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:						
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	6
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.						
1 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	0
2 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	0
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV (Overcrowding).						
(a) 1. Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	0
2. Number of Families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
3. Number of Persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	...	...	...	...	...	0
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	0
(d) Particulars of cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.						0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider desirable to report.						0

SUMMARY OF SANITARY  
INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT  
*and Work of the Public Health Department,  
1940.*

---

HOUSING.

Number of dwelling-houses completed during year 1940 :—

Detached Houses	...	...	...	...	2
Terrace Houses	...	...	...	...	3
Bungalows	...	...	...	...	1

Total number of dwelling-houses completed during year 1940      ...      ...      ...      ...      6

Number of houses built during the year for working classes :—

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	0
By Private Effort (i.e., houses of £450 and under, inclusive of cost)	...	...	...	...	0

Number of new houses or flats required for working class ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      50

Houses inspected      ...      ...      ...      ...      39

Cases of overcrowding abated      ...      ...      ...      ...      0

Defective houses repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      31

  ,, floors repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      2

  ,, roofs repaired or renewed      ...      ...      ...      ...      7

  ,, yards paved      ...      ...      ...      ...      2

  ,, external plastering repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      4

  ,, internal plastering repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      12

  ,, windows repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      9

  ,, stoves repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      5

  ,, coppers repaired      ...      ...      ...      ...      —

Number of houses dealt with under Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926 :

During year	...	...	...	...	...	0
Total to date	...	...	...	...	...	23

## DRAINS AND DRAINAGE.

Sewers re-laid during the year :—

Station Hill, 24 yards, 6-in.

Higher Street, 110 yards, 9-in.

Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	47
Defective drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	16
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of new buildings	...	...	...	...	...	6
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of existing buildings	...	...	...	...	...	14
Existing w.c.s fitted with flushing cisterns, or cisterns renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective traps removed or replaced with approved stoneware gully traps	...	...	...	...	...	17
Defective w.c.s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Automatic cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following sanitary fittings have been installed during the year :—

New baths	...	...	...	...	...	10
W.C.s	...	...	...	...	...	28
Lavatory basins	...	...	...	...	...	14
Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scullery sinks	...	...	...	...	...	10
Interceptors	...	...	...	...	...	9
Septic tanks	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chemical closets	...	...	...	...	...	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Rooms fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	59
Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	128
Articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	29
Rooms disinfected for notifiable infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	26
" " " tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	7
" " " verminous condition	...	...	...	...	...	32
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	26

## MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of cow-keepers and dairymen registered at end of year :—

Producer Wholesalers ...	...	...	...	5
Producer Retailers ...	...	...	...	19
Producer Wholesalers and Retailers	...	...	...	2
Retailers ...	...	...	...	14
Number removed from register ...	...	...	...	—
Number of cowsheds in district ...	...	...	...	42
,,          ,,      without impervious floors	...	...	...	3
,,          ,,      with unsatisfactory drainage	...	...	...	2
,,          ,,          ,,      ventilation	...	...	...	1
,,          ,,          ,,      lighting	...	...	...	1
,,          ,,          ,,      water supply	...	...	...	—
Number of visits to dairies, cowsheds, farms, etc. ...	...	...	...	27
Number of samples of milk taken for examination :—				
For cleanliness ...	...	...	...	.. 19
For tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	... 12
For adulteration (taken by County Police) ...	...	...	...	7

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

(Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924)

Number of butchers' shops in the district ...	...	...	8
Other food shops and stores ...	...	...	87
Number of visits to butchers' shops ...	...	...	49
,,          ,,      other food shops and stores	...	...	128

**Inspection of Meat and Foods.****CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.**

.	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number Killed ...	27	3	2	78	60	170
Number Inspected ...	20	3	2	67	52	144
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>						
Whole carcases condemned ... ...						
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ... ...		1				
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis...						
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>						
Whole carcase condemned ... ...						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...		1			4	
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis...	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %				7%	

Slaughtering in District (except for casuals) ceased January 1940, (M.O.F. Order).

**WEIGHT OF UNFIT FOOD DESTROYED.**

	Tuberculosis	Other Diseases and Conditions	Total Lbs.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	
Beef ... ..	260	28	288
Mutton ...		7	7
Pork ... ..	56	44	100
Offals ... ...		122	122
Total	316	201	517

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Number of slaughter-houses in district :—						
Registered	Not	...	...	...	...	9
Licensed	in	...	...	...	...	2
Public	use	...	...	...	...	0
Number of visits to slaughter-houses		...	...	...	...	
Number of visits to premises where emergency or occasional slaughtering is carried out		...	...	...	...	9

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of noxious or offensive trades in district	...	0
---	-----	---

### NUISANCES.

Complaints of nuisances received	...	...	...	39
Informal notices served	...	...	...	11
Statutory notices served	..	...	...	0
Nuisances abated without written notice	...	...	...	14

### SCHOOLS.

Number of schools in district :—				
Public	...	...	...	...
Private	...	...	...	4
Number of schools found defective		...	...	0
,, „ notices to managers	...	...	...	0
,, „ visits to schools	...	...	...	12

### BAKEHOUSES.

Number of bakehouses in district	...	...	...	10
,, „ inspections	...	...	...	14
,, „ found defective	...	...	...	0
,, „ of notices to remedy	...	...	...	0

**FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901  
AND FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

---

**1.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health.  
Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Number of factories and workshops registered in district 63

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
<b>Factories with mechanical power ...</b> 19	25		
<b>Factories without mechanical power</b> 36	41	2	
<b>* Other Premises under the Act (including works of building &amp; engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ...</b> 8	9	1	
<b>Total</b> 63	75	3	

\*Electrical stations should be reckoned as factories.

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	2	2		
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...				
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ... ... ...			.	
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	1		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ... ... ...				
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient ... ... ...	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2		
Not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences ...				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Section mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total ... ... ...	6	6		

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1)	(a) Number of Council houses found to be infested	1
	"      "      "      disinfected      ...	1
	(b) Number of other houses found to be infested	3
	"      "      "      disinfected      ...	0
(2)	Spraying with approved insecticide after removing wallpaper, skirting, etc.	
(3)	No action is taken before the removal of tenant's belongings, except inspection by the Sanitary Inspector.	
(4)	Work of disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.	
(5)	Tenants are advised by the Sanitary Inspector as to measures to prevent re-infestation after cleansing.	

## PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVES ACTS.

---

### PARTICULARS OF REGISTRATION.

Number of Licenses granted to store Petroleum Spirit	21
"          "          "          "          Carbide of Calcium	1
"          "          "          "          Mixed Explosives	5
"          "          "          "          Gunpowder and	
Mixed Explosives in Magazines	2

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

---

Leaflets on Rat Distraction and some 600 baits were issued to farms, food stores, etc., throughout the year, and quite a number of rats were accounted for by this effort.

POR T HEALTH DICTRICT OF BRIXHAM.

---

REPORT

*For Year ending 31st December, 1940.*

---

Regular inspections are made of the local boats, also visiting ships are examined by the Customs, and inspected by the Port Medical and Health Officer as a routine matter.

No action has been necessary in respect of infectious disease, and the facilities available for treatment, etc., are the same as outlined in my last report.

Yours faithfully,

F. L. GODFREY,

Port Health Inspector.

---

---



